(1991 Census), the location of a project depends on the commercial judgement of the entrepreneur. State Governments formulate their own industrial policy which include measures for promotion and development of particular industries. It is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments and private entrepreneurs to establish and develop industries based on the local prevailing conditions and availability of raw material.

Dumping of cheap vegetable oils from Nepal

t934. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that cheap vegetable oils are being dumped in India *via* Nepal and it is affecting the Indian vegetable oils trade adversely;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent this act so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) to (c) The Government of India are aware of the increasing imports of vegetable oils from Nepal under Indo-Nepal Treaty of Trade, as modified in December 1996, which provides for access to the Indian market for the articles manufactured in Nepal without payment of customs duty and without quantitative restriction irrespective of the sourcing of the raw materials. The imports of vegetable oils from Nepal have increased from a negligible quantity of less than 70 MTs in 1996-97 to 54,102 MTs in 1999-2001 and 90,951 MTs in 2000-2001 (April, 2000—February, 2001).

As provided under the Treaty, the process of consultation with His Majesty's Government of Nepal for taking appropriate measures to address the concerns of Indian industry has been initiated. Keeping in view the interests of our industry, steps are also being taken to make

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

suitable modifications in the Indo-Nepal Treaty of Trade which is due for renewal by December 5, 2001.

Decline in jewellery export to USA

935. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gems and jewellery exports have suffered as a result of terrorist attacks in U.S. in September, 2001;

(b) if so, whether India is exploring the possibility of exporting these items to other countries; and

(c) if so, the names of the countries to whom exports of gems and jewellery has been increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Due to the global economic slow down, there has been a decline in the Indian exports of gems and jewellery to most of the major markets in the world. However, as per the provisional figures provided by the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council, Mumbai (GJEPC), the exports of diamonds and gold jewellery during April—October 2001, from Mumbai, which is the most important exporting centre for gems and jewellery, have shown a slight increase in respect of some countries as compared to the corresponding period of the preceding year. The countries where Indian exports have shown an upward trend from Mumbai during April 2001-October 2001 include;

(i) Indian exports of diamonds to Australia, France, Mauritius, U.A.E., Switzerland, Thailand have shown an upward trend in April—October, 2001 *vis-a-vis* the corresponding period of the previous year.